Trustees: J. Brown
G. Elliott
L. French (Vice Chair)
T. Gingrich
B. Godkin
R. Hutcheon
K. McGregor
J. Morning
S. Ruttan (Chair) - absent
S. Hart (Student Trustee) - regrets
S. Kim (Student Trustee)

Staff: M. Babcock, Superintendent of Education
M. Baumann, Manager of Business Services
K. Burra, Superintendent of Education, Program and IT - regrets
J. Douglas, Communications Officer
S. Gillam, Associate Superintendent, Safe and Caring Schools
A. Labrie, Superintendent of Education and Human Resources
A. McDonnell, Associate Superintendent, Special Education
D. Rantz, Director of Education
S. Sartor, Associate Superintendent, School Effectiveness and Assessment
J. Silver, Superintendent of Education - regrets
K. Smith, Communications Officer
C. Young, Superintendent of Business Services

Recorder: L. Strange, Records Management Coordinator

Trustee French called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and welcomed all those present.

She read the Acknowledgement of Territory:

"The Limestone District School Board is situated on the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of Métis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We honour their cultures and celebrate their commitment to this land."

Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY: Trustee Godkin, that the agenda of June 12, 2019, as presented, be approved. Carried.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Trustee Elliott declared a conflict as his wife is an employee of the Board.

Trustee Godkin declared a conflict as his daughter is an occasional teacher with LDSB's co-terminous Boards.

Information Items

Superintendent Young shared a Budget Consultation Result document with Trustees for reference for possible constituent questions.

Director Rantz reminded Trustees that program team staff have been redirected to school positions because of the increased class sizes, and to help mitigate job loss.

The Priorities and Partnership Fund (formally EPO funding) has not yet been released. Boards have been advised to prepare their budgets without this funding in place.

Superintendent Young thanked staff for all their hard work in bringing forward a balanced budget. The budget aligns with the strategic plan, meets student needs, meets the requirements of collective agreements and Ministry compliance issues.

1. 2019-2020 Preliminary Operating Revenues

Manager Baumann stated that the preliminary operating revenue is not yet presented on a full PSAB basis. It excludes School Generated Funds at an estimated amount of $6,000,000 and Charitable Trust donations at an estimated amount of $186,000. These components as well as the capital revenue estimates is incorporated in the administrative report titled 2019-2020 Budget and Recommendation for Approval.

The 2019-2020 preliminary operating revenue is presented alongside the 2018-2019 revised estimates and 2018-2019 estimates for comparison purposes.

The projected enrolment of 19,145 ADE that the 2019-2020 preliminary operating revenue estimates is calculated on is summarized below:

- Elementary enrolment is projected at 13,134 ADE.
- Secondary enrolment is projected at 5,968 ADE.
- Secondary-high credit enrolment is projected at 43 ADE.

Adult education, continuing education and summer school enrolment is projected at 344 ADE.

The Operating GSN allocations have decreased $3,426,711 or 1.42% and the Pupil Foundation allocation has decreased $7,796,352 or 7.26%. Overall the allocation has decreased as a result of the class size changes, ECE staffing ratio reduction, elimination of secondary programming, declining enrolment and a reduction in the benefit benchmark offset by the labour framework salary increase and the new per-pupil amount for ECE supply costs.

The School Foundation allocation has increased $209,290 or 1.30%. Overall the allocation has increased as a result of the labour framework salary increase and the allocation method change offset by declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark.

The Special Education allocation has increased $68,453 or .23%. Overall the allocation has increased as a result of the labour framework salary increase and the increase in the Behaviour Expertise Amount offset by declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark.

The Language allocation has decreased by $252,400 or 5.87%. Overall the allocation decreased as a result of a decrease in projected FSL and ESL students and the reduction in the benefit benchmark offset by the labour framework salary increase.

The Supported School allocation has increased $336,104 or 16.47%. Overall the allocation has increased as a result the labour framework salary increase, changes to the class size and ECE funded classroom staffing ratio and declining enrolment offset by the reduction in the benefit benchmark.

The Remote and Rural allocation has decreased $899 or .42%. Overall the allocation has decreased as a result of declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark offset by the labour framework salary increase.

The Rural and Northern Education allocation has decreased $10,099 or 1.86%. Overall the allocation has decreased as a result of declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark offset by the labour framework salary increase.

The Learning Opportunities allocation has decreased by $2,557,357 or 37.31%. Overall the allocation has decreased as a result of the expiry of the LPF, declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark offset by the labour framework salary increase.

The Continuing Education allocation and Other Programs has increased $261,868 or 17.76%. Overall the allocation has increased as a result of the labour framework salary increase and the LPF transfer offset by the ISRA, the decline in enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark.

The Teacher Qualification and Experience allocation has increased $5,030,854 or 22.42%. Overall the allocation has increased as a result of the labour framework salary increases and the new Teacher Job Protection Funding allocation offset by class size changes, elimination of secondary programming, discontinued cost adjustment allocation, ELHT benefit decreases, declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark.

The New Teacher Induction Program allocation has increased $21,034 or 25.21%. Beginning in 2018-2019, funding available to provide support for new teachers over a greater length of time and to include newly-hired long-term occasional teachers in positions of 97 days or more.

The ECE Qualification and Experience allocation has decreased $146,084 or 10.42%. Overall the allocation has decreased as a result of the ECE staffing ratio reduction, declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark offset by the labour framework salary increase.

The Transportation allocation has increased $1,146,203 or 7.23%. New in 2019-2020, stabilization funding has been provided to school boards that run efficient transportation operations but which the costs of student transportation exceed the funding provided for that purpose.

The Administration and Governance allocation has decreased $127,475 or 1.75%. Overall the allocation has decreased as a result of the elimination of the Human Resource Transition Supplement, declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark offset by the labour framework salary increase for all employees with the exception of the Director and Supervisory Officers.

The School Operations allocation increased $65,557 or .29%. Overall the allocation has increased as a result of the labour framework salary increase, cost benchmark increase and Granite Ridge Education Centre (GREC) qualifying for enhanced top-up funding offset by declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark.

The Community Use of Schools allocation increased $9,120 or 3.04%.

The Declining Enrolment Adjustment allocation increased $300,300 or 365.53%. GSN grants are linked to enrolment, so as enrolment declines so does funding. Some costs are easy to adjust in reaction to this – i.e. teaching costs can be adjusted through the overall staffing process. However, other costs take time to adjust and restructure. The declining enrolment grant helps to offset lost grant revenue during this transition period.

The Indigenous Education allocation increased $15,169 or .63%. Overall the allocation has increased as a result of the labour framework salary increase offset by declining enrolment and the reduction in the benefit benchmark.

The Safe Schools allocation increased $3.

The Other Provincial Grants decreased by $3,430,290 or 82.26%.

Fees have decreased by $42,603 or 2.01%. 2019-2020 projections on tuition fee revenues for international students reflect a decrease due to lower enrolment.

Other Revenues have decreased by $978,614 or 19.66% due to the following:

- Community use revenue decrease reflects a projected decrease in sales.
- Cafeteria and beverage revenue increase reflects a projected increase in sales.
- Interest increase reflects a projected increase in interest rates.
- Instructional cost recoveries increase reflects an increase in union secondments.

- International students' other fees increase reflects an increase in the projection of other fees.

- Continuing education contracts decrease reflects program changes.

- Funding from accumulated surplus was used in 2018-2019 for one-time planned expenses.

Trustee Godkin asked why the Remote and Rural allocations uses Ottawa for LDSB. Superintendent Young replied that is a Ministry calculation based on a school Board's distance from the closest urban centre.

Trustee Godkin asked how the new teacher protection funding factors into staff redundancies. Superintendent Young answered that the Ministry has taken money from the Pupil Foundation, and returned part of it through this funding to help mitigate staff reductions. Though it is a sizable amount of funding, it is still less than has been removed from other areas of the budget.

Trustee Godkin asked for clarification on the Community Use of Schools allocation. The funding is to offset costs of allowing use of schools in the evening.

Trustee Godkin asked about the increase in the Board's interest rates over last year. Superintendent Young answered that the numbers are projections based on trending.

Trustee Morning asked if monies for retirement gratuities is banked and interest drawn on it. It was confirmed that it is.

Trustee Morning stated that the Community Use of school was supposed to be cost neutral, and that she didn't understand how it could be listed as revenue. The money is to help keep the cost neutral. If Boards didn't receive this funding they would have to charge more for use.

Trustee Gingrich asked if the Board would get more money if the Ministry reduces class sizes. Superintendent Young answered that if it is a Ministry mandated number it would have to be funded. Right now the difference between the funding number of 28 students and the collective agreement number of 22 is being offset by redirecting support staff to the classroom.

2. 2019-2020 Preliminary Operating Expenditures

Manager Baumann stated that the 2019-2020 Preliminary Operating Budget Expenditures (Expenditures Budget) is balanced to Preliminary Operating Revenues and aligns resources to support the strategic priorities as outlined in the Board Strategic Plan.

The 2019-2020 Preliminary Operating Budget Expenditures (Expenditures Budget) are not presented on a full Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) basis. The presentation of expenses on a full PSAB basis, including School Generated Funds, Charitable donations and capital expenditures are incorporated in the administrative report titled 2019-2020 Budget and Recommendation for Approval.

Classroom teachers has decreased $1,479,111 or 1.16%. The decrease is due to a 44.9 FTE teacher reduction as a result of the elimination of Local Priorities Fund (LPF) funding, class size changes, elimination of secondary programming, removal of Priorities and Partnership Fund (PPF) funded positions, declining enrolment and WSIB premium adjustments offset by labour framework provisions and statutory and ELHT premium adjustments.

Supply staff has decreased $752,675 or 10.60%. The decrease is due to teacher FTE reductions, absence trending and usage patterns offset by labour framework provisions and statutory premium adjustments.

Educational assistants has increased $82,661 or .56%. The increase is due to labour framework provisions and statutory and ELHT premium adjustments offset by the reduction of 1.0 FTE, casual EA support and WSIB premium adjustments.

Early childhood educators has increased $47,246 or 1.06%. The increase is due to labour framework provisions and statutory premium adjustments offset by the reduction of 1.0 FTE as a result of declining enrolment and WSIB premium adjustments.

Textbooks and supplies has decreased $1,588,793 or 26.05%. The decrease is due to the removal of PPF funded expenditures and 2018-2019 one-time planned expenditures. Changes will be made at revised estimates when PPF funding allocations are received.

Computers has decreased $266,641 or 10.93.%. The decrease is due to an alteration to the equipment replacement cycle and the removal of PPF funded expenditures.

Professionals, paraprofessionals and technicians has decreased $286,350 or 3.37%. The decrease is due to the removal of PPF funded expenditures which included 3.0 FTE and WSIB premium adjustments offset by labour framework provisions, addition of approximately 1.2 FTE as a result of the new Behaviour Expertise funding and statutory premium adjustments.

Library and Guidance has decreased $438,789 or 10.57%. This expenditure has been reduced by 4.0 FTE that have been redirected to the classroom to meet classroom staffing requirements as set out in the collective agreements and Ministry class size funding changes. The decrease is also due to a .2 FTE reduction as a result of declining enrolment and WSIB premium adjustments offset by labour framework provisions and statutory and ELHT premium adjustments.

Staff development has decreased $1,047,196 or 48.54%. The decrease is due to the removal of PPF funded expenditures.

Department heads has increased $2,887 or .99%. The increase is due to labour framework provisions.

Principals and Vice Principals has decreased $268,698 or 2.42%. The decrease is due to a 2.1 FTE reduction and WSIB premium adjustments offset by labour framework provisions and statutory and ELHT premium adjustments.

School office has decreased $89,729 or 1.42%. The decrease is due to a 1.4 FTE reduction as a result of the elimination of LPF funding and WSIB premium adjustments offset by labour framework provisions and statutory premium adjustments.

Co-ordinators and consultants has decreased $1,358,438 or 34.84%. The decrease is due to a 11.0 FTE reduction of which 4.0 FTE were a result of the removal of PPF funded positions and 3.0 FTE have been redirected to the classroom to meet classroom staffing requirements as set out in the collective agreements and Ministry class size funding changes. The decrease is also due to WSIB and ELHT premium adjustments offset by labour framework provisions and statutory premium adjustments.

Continuing education has decreased by $281,744 or 13.83%. The decrease is due to a 2.4 FTE reduction as a result of the elimination of LPF funding, program changes and WSIB and ELHT premium adjustments offset by labour framework provisions and statutory premium adjustments.

Trustees has decreased $3,148 or 2.11%. The decrease is due to statutory premium adjustments.

Directors and supervisory officers has decreased $2,422 or .28%. The decrease is due to statutory and WSIB premium adjustments.

Board administration has increased $28,144 or .44%. The increase is due to labour framework provisions and statutory premium adjustments offset by a 1.0 FTE reduction as a result of the elimination of LPF funding and WSIB and ELHT premium adjustments.

Transportation has increased $818,370 or 4.97%. The increase is due to increases in bus operator contract rates, labour framework provisions and legal costs.

School operations and maintenance has decreased $769,259 or 2.88%. The decrease is due to a 5.0 FTE reduction of which 4.0 FTE were a result of the removal of LPF funded positions, WSIB and ELHT premium adjustments, removal of PPF funded expenditures and planned reductions in building maintenance expenditures offset by labour framework provisions, statutory premium adjustments and projected increases in natural gas commodity prices and electricity costs.

Other Non-Operating has decreased $224,533 or 13.01%. The decrease is due removal of PPF funded expenditures, labour framework provisions and statutory premium adjustments.

The 2019-2020 Preliminary Operating Budget Expenditures are $244,727,374 which is a decrease of $7,878,218 or 3.12%.

The 2019-2020 Preliminary Operating expenditures of $244,727,374 are balanced to the 2019-2020 Preliminary Operating revenues of $244,727,374.

The Ministry requires school boards to submit budgets prepared on a full PSAB basis. The presentation of expenses on a full PSAB basis, including School Generated Funds, Charitable Trust donations and capital revenues and expenditures is included in the administrative report titled 2019-2020 Budget and Recommendation for Approval.

Trustee Morning asked what the impact of the budget cuts are on classrooms. Director Rantz answered that there is no loss of staffing at the elementary panel, but that there will be a loss of approximately 60 classes of secondary teaching. Specialized programs are at a risk of not running due to teacher availability at the secondary level.

Trustee Gingrich asked if the does transportation line includes the City of Kingston Bus Pass program. It was confirmed that it does.

3. 2019-2020 Preliminary Capital Budget – Revenues and Expenditures

Manager Baumann reported that the 2019-2020 Preliminary Capital Budget – Revenues & Expenditures is being presented on a modified cash basis.

The 2019-2020 Preliminary Capital Budget – Capital Revenues of $27,847,958 are balanced to the Capital Expenditures of $27,847,958.

For 2019-2020, the School Renewal allocation is $4,067,875, a decrease of $111,817 as compared to the 2018-2019 Revised Estimates amount of $4,179,692. For 2019-2020, the School Condition Improvement allocation is $14,771,925, an increase of $3,246,515 over the 2018-2019 Revised Estimates amount of $11,525,410.

Major capital project funds totalling $42,062,007 was approved by the Ministry to construct a new composite school to consolidate secondary students from Kingston Collegiate & Vocational Institute (KCVI), Queen Elizabeth Collegiate & Vocational Institute (QECVI) and Grades 7 & 8 intermediate French Immersion/Extended French students from Module Vanier. This new school will be built on the former QECVI property and is expected to be open in the 2019-2020 school year.

Similar to previous years, an estimate of school fundraising efforts to support playground play structure projects has been included.

Debt charges permanently financed of $457,419 represents the 55 School Board Trust debt (pre amalgamation liabilities not permanently financed until 2033).

Capital debt support interest of $2,936,803 includes nine OFA long-term financings, all for 25 years. Short-term interest supported by the Ministry is estimated to be $420,691 for 2019-2020.

The Ministry requires school boards to submit budgets prepared on a full Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) basis, including School Generated Funds, Charitable Trust donations and capital expenditures.

Trustee Gingrich asked if the Board could expect any other expenditures due to labour dispute regarding the new school build. Superintendent Young answered that the Board not forecasting any increases due to the labour dispute.

Trustee Godkin asked if Trustees are made aware of what the capital project monies are spent on. Superintendent Young answered that a report is coming outlining what these expenses will be for this year.

4. 2019-2020 Consolidated Budget and Recommendations to the Board for Approval

School boards are required to report budgets in accordance with PSAB standards.

The consolidated budget is prepared in accordance with PSAB and combines the operating and capital budgets and identifies the treatment/recognition of capital transactions, as well as school-generated funds, amortization of tangible capital assets and employee future benefits and accrued interest on long-term debt.

The presentation of the 2019-2020 Consolidated PSAB Budget document has been designed in a worksheet-type format to highlight the following adjustments when determining the in-year surplus (deficit) position.

- $411,000 has been transferred from operating revenue to deferred capital contributions related to tangible capital assets for minor capital additions related to furniture and equipment, vehicles, computer hardware and software tangible capital assets. A similar adjustment has occurred under the expenses.
- $24,453,736 has been transferred from capital revenue to deferred capital contributions related to major capital additions. A similar adjustment has occurred under the expenses.
- Amortization expense has been added for $16,454,763 with an offsetting amortization of deferred revenue of $16,350,146. The difference of $104,617 represents funding coming from committed capital surplus.
- $6,000,000 has been added to both revenue and expense for school-generated funds.
- $186,000 has been added to both revenue and expense for Charitable Fund.
- Amortization of employee future benefits of $1,121,983 and accrued interest of $36,789 have been excluded.
- $205,011 of the amortization of employee future benefits is funded from retirement benefits accumulated surplus.

- The 2019-2020 Budget contains total revenues of $270,246,742 and total expenses of $269,397,598 prepared in accordance with PSAB standards.

The Ministry of Education requires school boards to adopt a balanced consolidated PSAB budget, whereby the in-year revenues are equal to or greater than the in-year expenses.

The Ministry has a calculation to measure if boards are compliant with the balanced budget requirement. This calculation excludes school-generated funds, amortization of employee future benefits and accrued interest on long-term capital debt. This calculation presented in the Compliance Report demonstrates that total revenues and total expenses are equal. As a result, the 2019-2020 Budget is compliant with the Ministry balanced-budget requirement.

Trustee Godkin asked for clarification on Charitable Trust funds and School Generated fund. Manager Baumann answered that School Generated funds are monies earned through fees from schools (hot lunches, trips, athletics). Charitable Trust funds mean that certain amounts are recognized with a charitable receipt, but they are also acquired through School Generated Funds.

Trustee Godkin asked if schools can decide to use funds for a specific purpose. Superintendent Young replied that it depends on the nature of the fund raising, but that fundraising for a specific purpose is possible.

Trustee Morning asked why are Charitable Trust and School Generated funds are listed as an expense. Manager Baumann answered that they have to be shown as an expense to offset the funds coming in as revenue in these lines.

Trustee Godkin asked where the funding to removal of asbestos, etc. is reflected. Superintendent Young answered that the Board addressees those issues on an ongoing basis through capital monies.

Trustee Elliott stated that the public has asked over and over for more EAs. Is the reason the Board can't hire more because it has maxed out the funding allowed? Superintendent Young answered that the compliment of EAS has not changed for next year, but that funding for this staffing area has not grown.

MOTION: That the Board approve the 2019-2020 Budget prepared on a PSAB basis with total revenues of $270,246,742 and total expenditures of $269,397,598.

MOVED BY: Trustee McGregor.

Trustee God asked for clarification on the number of staff that will be removed form the Board due to the funding cuts. Superintendent Labrie answered that the Board has declared 27 more redundancies this year than in previous years due to funding changes.

The total Program loss is approximately 60 classes, which would represent approximately 10 FTE teachers.

The Chair called the question. The motion was carried.

Director Rantz stated that Senior Staff will continue to update Trustees as further information becomes available about PPF monies and affects of the cuts on the classroom.

Other Business

None at this time.

Next Meeting Dates:

April 22, 2020.

Adjournment

Trustee French for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOVED BY: Trustee Gingrich, that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.